



Banners Gate & Parklands Community & Neighbourhood Forum

206 July 2026

bannersgateneighbourhoodforum.com

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Councillor John Cooper, Sutton Vesey Ward:

It has now been 8 months since Sutton Coldfield Town Council took over the management of Boldmere Library, saving it from closure under the then labour controlled City Council. Not only did they take this library, Walmley library and Mere Green Library along with the community centres at Walmley and Mere Green were taken under its wing as well. This has resulted in investment in all three centres bringing the up to standard previously lost under the then City Council.

Those using the libraries have responded with increased usage, the extra day opening has been welcomed universally and the fact that these valuable community resources are no longer under threat is welcomed by all.

I felt uncomfortable from the start that the Town Ranger service was just filling the gap purposely created by the Labour City Council. As time has gone on I have come to accept that the only way our town will be kept clean and safe is because of the service we now enjoy is provided locally by the Ranger Service, exclusively for the

Town.

You might have noticed the gradual build up of bedding plants, in borders, in tubs and on railings and in hanging baskets throughout the Town in recent days. Another service provided exclusively for the Town by the Rangers.

In regard to waste collections, Residents will also;

- be receiving a fourth bin for paper and cardboard, with your existing recycling bin now only for glass, plastic, tins etc. (you will not have to use the paper hopper anymore)
- residual household (black bin) will move to fortnightly from next week.
- recycling collection should then restart on alternative fortnights (ie both recycling bins).
- be receiving a small food waste bin and caddy which will be collected weekly.
- the garden waste service is still suspended.

June '26

John.cooper@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk

John.cooper@birmingham.gov.uk



Cllr Anja Pawson

City Councillor & Town Councillor for Sutton Vesey

Vice-Chair of Friends of Boldmere Spinney, Primary School Teacher, School Governor, busy Mum of two

Our Work in the Community



Graffiti removal



Hedge Trimming

Left: Cllr Anja Pawson and John Cooper are working hard to keep Sutton Vesey looking its best. With support from the Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council Town Rangers, they arranged graffiti removal on Longmoor Road and hedge trimming outside Boldmere Primary School.

Right: At the last Full Council meeting, Cllr Anja Pawson handed in four petitions to reject change of use planning applications for: 229 Chester Road, 56 George Road, 52 Elizabeth Road and 1 Coppice View Road. Thank you to everyone who signed the petitions.



Left: At a local event with the Chief Inspector and local neighbourhood police teams, Cllr Anja Pawson spoke about the role of a Councillor and the ways we work together with the police to support the community.

Email us: veseyward@gmail.com

Follow us on Fb: VeseyNews



FOOD WASTE COLLECTED EVERY WEEK

BROWN CADDY FOOD WASTE



YES PLEASE

	Fish, meat and bones
	Leftovers and plate scrapings
	Bread, rice and pasta
	Fruit and veg peelings
	Teabags and coffee grounds

NO THANKS

	Packaging of any kind
	Black bags
	Liquids such as milk
	Flowers or garden waste
	Oil or liquid fat
	Any item that is not food waste



STEP 1

Line your indoor kitchen caddy with a bag, kitchen towel or newspaper.

Put any peelings, raw food into your indoor kitchen caddy.



STEP 2

When full, remove from the indoor kitchen caddy.



STEP 3

Empty the contents of your indoor kitchen caddy into your outdoor brown caddy.

Then place it at the kerbside each week for collection.

RECYCLABLES COLLECTED EVERY 2 WEEKS



BLUE LID BIN GLASS, PLASTIC & METAL

YES PLEASE

	Plastic milk and water bottles with lids
	Household plastic bottles
	Plastic yoghurt pots, empty food tubs or raw meat trays
	Aerosol cans
	Clean foil and foil trays
	Aluminium drinks cans, food tins
	Glass bottles
	Empty jars
	Food and drinks cartons



GREEN LID BIN PAPER & CARDBOARD

YES PLEASE

	Empty cardboard boxes and packaging
	Cereal boxes and food boxes
	Empty toilet rolls
	Newspapers and magazines
	Egg boxes
	Junk mail, envelopes and office paper

PLEASE EMPTY AND RINSE ITEMS

ONLY CLEAN, DRY PAPER AND CARD PLEASE

NO THANKS

	Food waste
	Batteries and Vapes
	Nappies
	Greasy food boxes or pizza boxes
	Garden waste

- Coat hangers
- Light bulbs
- Drinking glasses
- Heat resistant glassware or cookware
- Paint tins
- Black food trays / hard plastic
- Textiles / clothes / shoes
- Gas bottles / canisters
- Electrical items



From Rob Pocock, Community Campaigner, Sutton Vesey

A VISIT TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS!

Last week I was able to complete one of my life's ambitions – taking tea on the Terrace of the Houses of Parliament overlooking the river Thames!

I've run tours of the House of Commons many times but never done the Lords and never made it to the Terrace – you need a personal invite for that. Luckily Lord 'Jeff' Rooker of Perry Barr, who I have known since the 1980s, did me the honours this time!

[see pic]



Jeff managed to get me a guest pass from 'Black Rod' to actually sit in the Lords chamber while the final debates of the summer session were proceeding. The Lords is actually much more strictly traditional than the Commons – I got firmly reprimanded by the Stewards for stepping just 2 inches over the 'dividing line' at the entrance which separates the walkway of their esteemed Lordships from the one for us commoners...

The Lords Chamber itself is also immensely more ornate than the Commons. The green leather benches of the Commons are about

the brightest thing about the place, but the Lords (red benches) is a different story altogether. Bedecked with gold carved porticos, stained glass windows and high painted roof cornices and ceilings, plush red carpet etc, the actual chamber is stunning.

One surprise to me though, during the debates, was the absence of an overseeing Speaker to call members in to speak. The Commons Speaker will firmly call a member in by reference to their constituency. But in the Lords there is no such oversight – their Lordships just 'butt in' on each other – basically the biggest loudmouth gets to speak next. Apparently, this traces back to an ancient custom that a Lord cannot be overseen by a higher authority other than the monarch – and even that is disputed!

The Terrace Tea by the way is actually a no-frills experience – just a basic cuppa from a machine! I'm not sure that was worth waiting for, and I bet that visiting dignitaries get a classier offering, but the riverside experience itself was spectacular and altogether a day I will never forget.



How can the National Emergency Briefing help change the world?

National Emergency Briefing

"That's our home, it's the only one we've got. It's where all of our species has lived and died, everyone, every single human.

It's where we breathe, it's where we eat, we laugh, we cry, we love, we hate and as far as we know, together with all the other wonderful life on Earth we are the only known life forms in the universe and we've got nowhere else to go."

Chris Packham - CBE

On Thursday 30th July a National Emergency Briefing film was shown to residents at Banners Gate Community Hall during the forum meeting.

The film presented by Chris Packham, featuring scientists, and well-known celebrities like Deborah Meaden and Jenifer Saunders explains the facts surrounding climate change and what actions can be taken to adapt to our new climate, and how to reduce carbon emissions.

The briefing set out the implications of climate change and nature breakdown for health, food systems, national security and the economy.

The showing of the film was impeccably timed as the week's news had reported that a drought had been declared in the West Midlands, wildfires were burning in the UK and in France, Spain & Germany, and we were in the grip of our 4th heatwave.

History suggests that societies are more resilient when people are trusted with the truth.

Human beings are capable of extraordinary wisdom, creativity and cooperation - but usually only when we engage honestly with reality, and with one another. Societies function best when difficult issues can be discussed openly, evidence is taken seriously, and long-term wellbeing matters more than short-term advantage.

At a time when public trust is under strain, we believe some values matter deeply and deserve renewed emphasis in public life: a non-negotiable commitment to truth, respect for the dignity and equal worth of every person, and recognition that human prosperity ultimately

Continued on next page...

depends upon the health and stability of our living world, of which we are part.

The role of the NEB is not to tell people what political views they should hold, nor to promote a particular ideology or party-political programme. It is to help create the conditions in which citizens, communities and decision-makers can engage honestly and constructively with the realities we face.

The aim:

We are calling for a wartime-scale response to the climate and nature crisis.

The first step towards this is for government to level with the public by staging a prime-time, multi-channel televised national emergency briefing to the nation.

Such a briefing would launch a major public engagement plan, combatting rising disinformation and securing support for the urgent action now needed.

After the showing of the film there were positive and insightful discussions about what they had learned, and how they could take further action.

Attendees supported contacting their MP and local councillors to urge them to support the campaign for a prime time viewing as well as discussing hosting further events in their community spreading the message further.

They explored how climate change could impact Sutton Coldfield, and its residents and thought of the local opportunities to address the issues raised in the film, with everyone in the room expressing concern about how our weather is changing but feeling that by working collectively it's not too late to avoid the worst impacts.

Below is the link to the website where you can view the briefings that supported the film:

[NEB Expert Briefings - Key Points.pdf - Google Drive](#)

Future screenings can be found here:

<https://www.nebriefing.org/screening-map>

To contact Andrew Mitchell MP please use this address
andrew.mitchell.mp@parliament.uk

Article by: Rebecca Clarke, Project Leader, Flood Risk Management, Birmingham Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) Also, Sow Very Vesey & Secretary of Friends of the Gates - Boldmere & Banners Gate.



Tips for people feel safer on the streets

Some of this advice might seem obvious, but there are some simple things we can do to help other people feel safer when they're out in public.

Keep your distance

When walking behind someone, particularly at night, try to leave a good amount of distance between yourself and the person ahead of you. Remember that the closer you are, the more threatening you might seem.

Don't stare

A stranger staring at you can be intimidating and unsettling. Focus on something else to show you're not a threat. Look out of the window, message a friend, or read a book or newspaper.

Cross the road

Somebody running up behind you, particularly at night, can be frightening. If you're out for an evening run, or walk, and see someone walking ahead, cross the road, call out to let them know you're about to run by them or make sure to leave a good amount of space when you pass them.

Keep comments to yourself

What you might think of as just a bit of fun, or flattery, can be insulting, upsetting or even scary to someone else. Keep any comments or opinions to yourself.

Keep your friends in line

If you're in a group of people where someone is harassing another person on the street, try to calm the situation. They may just need to be told that they're behaving inappropriately.

Be an active bystander

If you notice someone is uncomfortable with another person's behaviour, show your support by being an active bystander. It can be as simple as standing between a person and their harasser to block their line of sight. Ask that person if they need any help, and back up anyone else who is intervening.

Share these tips

Sharing these tips with other people can go a long way towards making us all feel safer on the streets.

#SaferTownSummer



WELCOME TO BIRMINGHAM BULLETIN

The latest news and events from Birmingham City Council.

30 July 2026

[View in browser](#)

International Day of Birmingham returns



Council House to be transformed for International Day of Birmingham festivities

Birmingham's iconic Council House is being transformed into The House That Brum Built for this years International Day of Birmingham.

Expect two days packed with incredible events, inspiring people, brilliant food, culture, music, nightlife and plenty of Brummie pride as we celebrate Birmingham across the globe.

On the 24 and 25 September, there will be around 50 events across two days.

Whether you're born and bred in Brum or simply love the city, this is one celebration you won't want to miss.

Hire Banners Gate Community Hall



*A Center of Excellence within Banners Gate Community,
For Children's Parties, Meetings, Seminars, Dance Classes and more !
Banners Gate Community Hall has a fully equipped Kitchen, Disabled facilities,
A Music and entertainment Hub*

Book with us as below. **07513 184945**

35 Reay Nadin Drive, Sutton Coldfield B73 6UR, Tel: Jessica 07538794120

Banners Gate Community Coffee Club

A chance to relax, chat to like minded people, whilst having a cuppa, cake and biscuits all for a generous donation

**EVERY THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH
10AM TO 12 PM**

Come and join our Community Coffee Club
Have a chat and make new friends

Take part in our free raffle

We cater for age groups of 60 years Plus

35 Reay Nadin Drive, Sutton Coldfield B736UR
Contact Karen and Gary
07833720015 - garyhall7@blueyonder.co.uk



MILITARY VETERANS CLUB

HONOUR • SERVICE • SACRIFICE



Scan me!

TOGETHER WE SUPPORT



NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT
BANNERS GATE COMMUNITY HALL
REAY NADIN DRIVE, SUTTON COLDFIELD B73 6UR



CALL OR
MESSAGE

07871 770498 OR 07932 174550



**18.00
HOURS**



**THURSDAY
20TH AUGUST**



**TEA AND
COFFEE
SUPPLIED**



BANTER • FRIENDSHIP • RESPECT • SUPPORT



EXCITING NEWS FOR
BANNERSGATE CLASSES!

TAROT CARD READING IN BSL COMING SOON!



TO OUR CLASSES AT
BANNERSGATE, SUTTON COLDFIELD.

INTERESTED? JOIN THE JOURNEY!

PLEASE CONTACT SILVER ON:



07825 255 042



WOMEN'S CONFIDENCE CIRCLE

A supportive weekly space for women ready to reconnect with themselves, grow, and feel grounded again.

This circle helps you -

- * Build confidence from the inside out
- * Feel calmer and more centred
- * Connect with like-minded women
- * Grow without pressure or judgement

Banners Gate Community Hall, 335 Reay Nadin Dr, Royal
Sutton Coldfield B73 6UR

Every Wednesday — 7pm

07564 750526

Limited spaces — message for more information & to
reserve your spot.

£5 per
person

Find us on Facebook: Women Who Rise – Confidence
Circle

Older adults Day care in Sutton Coldfield

Our Day Centres are all about enriching the lives of older adults — we're dedicated to meeting the individual care and support

needs of our citizens while providing a friendly, engaging space where they can truly feel part of a community. Every day, we aim to

create a positive, stimulating environment that promotes wellbeing, independence, and connection.

We're proud to provide welcoming, well-established Day Centres for individuals aged 50 and over, located in Mere Green and Boldmere.

With over 14 years of experience, our team is passionate about supporting older adults to live fulfilling lives through personalised

care, engaging activities, and meaningful social connections.

Our daily rate is £45.50, which includes a light breakfast, a freshly prepared two-course lunch, and regular refreshments throughout

the day. Each day is shaped by the citizens themselves — with activities chosen to reflect their interests and abilities — ensuring

everyone can participate in something that brings them joy and purpose.

We understand that joining a new setting can be a big step, so we warmly offer a free trial session. You're welcome to attend with

a family member or carer to get a real feel for what we do and to see whether it's the right fit for your loved one.

Additionally, as a day centre service we are extending our current offers as we understand the demand and need in more flexibility

for both the cared-for and unpaid carers involved. I have put some more information regarding this below:

- **Flexi Days** – For those who find set days difficult, there will now be an option to book more flexible attendance to better suit individual needs.

- **Rest n Refresh Sessions** – New 2.5-hour sessions that can be booked the evening before or on the morning of attendance.

These shorter visits are perfect for carers who need time for appointments, shopping, or a short break.

Cost: £25 (optional

lunch £6 and pudding £1.50).

- **Pay as You Go** – We are aware that citizens and their families may be hesitant to commit to contracts straight away. To

support this, we are offering a pay-as-you-go option for up to 4 weeks, giving people time to decide whether regular attendance is right for them.

Please find our current venues and days of operation below:

Days	Venue	Location
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday	The Laurels	Grange Lane, Mere Green, Sutton Coldfield, B75 5JX
Wednesday	Sutton Rose	ST Michaels Road, Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5FU



St Columba's Hall Hire

Tables & chairs to accommodate 80 people in comfort

Hall 12m x 12m

Adjoining Kitchen 4.7m x 3.2m is also available for hire when booking hall

Ideal venue for leisure activities e.g., dance groups, keep fit, etc.

Available for one-off events as well as regular bookings

Bookings available 52 weeks of the year including Saturdays

Facilities

Large easy access car park with 32 spaces

Ground level wheelchair access to all areas

Male / female/ disabled toilets

A Kitchen is available for hire. Suitable for light refreshments

Please contact Alison Jolley, email: st.columbahall@yahoo.com

for further details.





NEW DANCE CLASSES JOIN NOW

High-energy • Fun • Confidence-building
All levels welcome

TUESDAYS

🕒 4:15 – 5:00 PM
Street Dance (6+)
£6 per class

5:00 – 5:45 PM
Contemporary Dance (6+)
£6 per class

THURSDAYS

4:15 – 5:00 PM
Under 6's Street &
Creative Movement Class
£6 per class

5:00 – 6:00 PM
Street Dance (10+)
£7 per class

6:00 – 7:00 PM
Contemporary (10+)
£7 per class

Book Monthly for a % off!

CONTACT & SIGN UP

✉ quantumdancestudios@gmail.com

📷 📘 @quantumdancestudios

☎ 07777121229

St Columbus c of e church hall. Banners gate road.
B73 6TX

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE - ENROL NOW



Age Concern Birmingham
is now
Age Connects West Midlands.

While our name has changed, our services, values, staff, and commitment to supporting our communities remain exactly the same.

The new name better reflects who we are today - a modern charity bringing people and communities together and celebrating ageing as a positive part of life.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please speak to a member of the team.

Check our socials below



communittea cafe

What's On

August 2026

Opening Times
Monday to Saturday 8:30am - 4.15pm

Call us on 0121 362 3650
For bookings, call us on 0121 630 2462
communittea@ageconnectswm.org.uk



Communittea Cafe is owned and managed by
Age Connects West Midlands

Monday

Carers Hub drop-in: 9.30am until 12pm - weekly
Our advisors can provide information and advice today. Pop in and have a chat, no appointment necessary.

Warm Welcome: 9:30am until 12pm - weekly
Come and join us in our cosy cafe!

Knit and Natter: 10am until 12pm - weekly
Join our team of knitters and enjoy some great company along with a cuppa and maybe even a slice of cake.

Tuesday

Allotment Group: 10am until 12pm - weekly
Talk all things gardening with the Communittea Allotment group, you will find us at the allotment if the weather is nice.

Dementia Carers drop-in: 10am until 12pm - weekly
Drop in advice and information for unpaid dementia carers.

Stroke Support Group: 10am - 4th and 18th Only
Bringing together friends and families who have experienced the impact of stroke through our supportive group.

Warm Welcome: 10am until 12pm - weekly
Come and join us in our cosy cafe!

Friends For Life Veterans Group: 12pm until 3pm - weekly
Our group aims to bring together all ex service personnel to make new friends.

Wednesday

Community Police drop-in: 11am until 12pm - 5th and 19th Only
Come along to meet and chat to a Police officer

Advice Cafe: 11am until 1pm - weekly
From benefits advice to saving energy at home. No need to book, just drop in.

Friendship Group: 11am until 1pm - weekly
Come down for a chat and a cuppa - everyone welcome!

Digital Inclusion: 3pm until 4pm - weekly
Joe will be in the cafe lending a hand for all your tech needs!

Thursday

Social Worker drop-in: 10am until 1pm - weekly
Come along to meet and chat to a social worker - ask us anything

Parkinson's UK: 10am until 12pm - 6th and 20th Only
A group welcoming those with Parkinson's and their families and carers.

Knit and Natter: 2pm until 3:30pm - weekly
Join our team of knitters and enjoy some great company along with a cuppa and maybe even a slice of cake.

Craft and Knit Group: 10am until 12pm - weekly
Come along to our new craft group, previously held at the Sutton Library. Don't forget to get yourself a cuppa and maybe even a slice of cake.

AWOC Support Group: 10am - 11:30am - 27th Only
Are you growing older without children nearby - or without children at all? Our Ageing Without Children group offers a warm, welcoming space to share experiences, build friendships and support one another.

Friday

Art Group: 10am until 11.30pm - weekly - Waiting list to join
A friendly art group working with various mediums from charcoal and acrylic paints to lino printing. We create artwork in a relaxed positive environment. Contact Angie for availability 07789 408956 or email angie@therecoveryfoundation.org.uk

Advice Cafe: 11am until 2pm - weekly
One of our friendly Advice and Information team will be on hand to help with your queries - from benefits advice to saving energy at home. No need to book, just drop in.

Chatty Cafe: 2pm until 4pm - weekly
Come down for a chat and a cuppa - everyone welcome!

Saturday

Legal Services Drop In: 10am until 12pm - 1st August Only
Drop in to speak to our legal partner Jane from Wills Made Clear if you need advice on a will, lasting power of attorney or trusts!

Reduced VAT on kids meals until September 1st

Birmingham's Mobile Library Service

For over 30 years the Mobile Library has taken library services out into many diverse communities across the city.

Everyone is welcome to join the Mobile Library. You can register with us, or you can use your existing Birmingham library card on the vehicle. You can borrow a maximum of 10 items at any one time (including items borrowed from our other libraries). The Mobile Library vehicle carries over 3,500 items of stock for adults, young people and children of all ages. The stock is changed frequently, and new items are added regularly.

The Mobile Library has access to the full library catalogue. It operates a free reservation service for any items you may wish to order. You can return items from other Birmingham libraries at any Mobile Library stop too. The Mobile Library vehicle is also fitted with a lift allowing for easy access.

Did you know that the service comes into the heart of our community?

It currently operates **every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Monday between 10.00 – 11.00 parked** outside Sutton Park Academy on Coppice View Road, B73 6UE.

Go along and see what's on board. Use it – Or lose it!

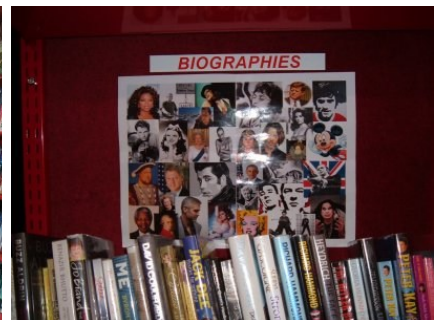
For more information, please use one of the methods detailed below -

Phone: 0121 464 6171 Mobile: 07766 923344

Email: mobile.library.service@birmingham.gov.uk

FaceBook: Mobile Library Service - Birmingham UK Twitter: bhammobilelib

www.birmingham.gov.uk/mobile-library



What's On at Streetly Community Library Spring/Summer 2026

Tuesday 19th May 11-12 Crime Club Reading Group

Wednesday 20th May 10-12 Knit, Stitch & Chat

Saturday 23rd May 2-3 Drop-in Help with your Mobile Phone

Tuesday 26th May 10-12 Chess Club for Adults

Wednesday 27th May 10.30-11.30 Drop-in Half Term Crafts

Wednesday 3rd June 11-12 Adult Reading Group

Saturday 6th June 10.30-12 Lego Fun

Tuesday 9th June 10-12 Chess Club for Adults

Wednesday 10th June 10.30-12 Poetry Group

Tuesday 16th June 11-12 Crime Club Reading Group

Wednesday 17th June 10-12 Knit, Stitch & Chat

Saturday 20th June 9.30-10.30 Mental Health Drop-in - *no appointment needed*

Tuesday 23rd June 10-12 Chess Club for Adults

Plus

Reading Friends Social Group every Friday 10-11.30 - *join us for a cuppa and a chat*

Story & Rhyme Time for pre-school children every Friday in term time 10.30-11

Blackwood Road, Streetly, B74 3PL
01922 654864 streetlylibrary@walsall.gov.uk

Sutton Coldfield Repair Cafe



This Repair Cafe is a free community meeting event where skilled volunteer fixers will help repair various items, give advice, skill share or you can just come along for a cuppa and a chat. The event is to bring people together to reduce waste and help the environment.

The Repair Cafe is held at Wylde Green United Reformed Church 72 Britwell Road, Boldmere, B73 5SW on the **Second Saturday of each month** between 10:00am to 1:00pm, last repairs at 12:30

See Facebook for more details (Search "Sutton Coldfield Repair Cafe").

Next events:-

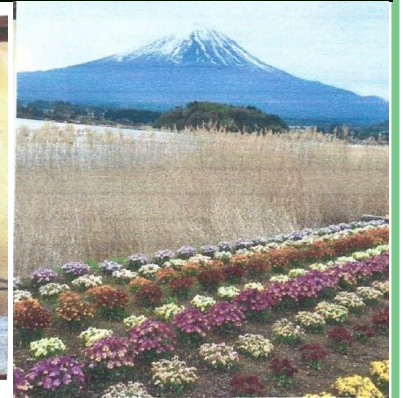
11th October at Wylde Green United Reformed Church.

8th November at Wylde Green United Reformed Church.

13th December at Wylde Green United Reformed Church.

Maria Mitchell. Tropic Skincare Ambassador.
07400894034.
Flf7b@yahoo.co.uk.
Contact me to discuss products, book a pamper party or discuss possibilities for fundraising events. Tropic is an ethical company that is certified vegan and organic.





An Adventure in Japan

MY wife and I thought long and hard about travelling to Japan, we are both of a certain age and we thought the travelling might be too much for us. However, we "took the plunge " and we were more than rewarded with such a magnificent Country and People.

We decided to travel in April to see the Cherry Blossoms in bloom, we were more than rewarded with the magnificent blossoms and we also witnessed the start of the Apple Blossom season.

Japan is a cultural paradox, a rich history of emperors, samurais and martial arts contrasting with a place of tranquillity of geishas, colourful kimonos and exquisite gardens, palaces, temples and shrines.

We travelled on the Bullet Train (Shinkansen) between Tokyo and Osaka and then onto Hiroshima. The train travels at more than 200mph without you noticing the speed because of the amazing smooth ride. The only negative is that you only have 2minutes to get on/off the train. The train doesn't wait and is never more than 20 seconds late and the timetable is guaranteed.

We saw the famous sites of Tokyo including the world-famous Shibuya pedestrian crossing, Tokyo's most photographed road intersection and rumoured to be the busiest in the World. The Tokyo Tower and a boat trip around Tokyo Bay.

We enjoyed astonishing views of Mount Fuji, Lake Kawaguchi and the hot spring Mountain Spa of Hakone. Onto the City of Hiroshima and the horrors of war and the atomic bomb, numbing.

A Japanese Tea ceremony, where a cup of green tea takes 45 minutes to make! But what a ceremony to witness with all the exquisite detail and art.

The shops are bright, and colourful, the restaurants and places to eat cater for tastes from all around the World. The longest escalators I have ever seen at Kyoto Railway Station, they seem to go to Heaven.

My overwhelming memory is one of a wonderful clean Country of extremely polite people, no litter, graffiti. No one eats in the Street, and no loud voices are heard.

And so, a return to UK, what a shock in the contrast between the two Countries.

Boldmere Falcons FC, established in 1974, have just set up a new Walking Football group in Boldmere for anyone affected by any type of cancer, be it prostate, leukaemia, bone, breast, bowel, skin or any other form of cancer.

Everyone is welcome, gents and ladies, whether you have been diagnosed, undergoing treatment, are under surveillance, in recovery, in remission or supporting someone who is.

The weekly sessions are free to attend every Tuesday and started on 16th June 2026 at 12.30 to 2.30pm at Boldmere Sports & Social Club, B73 5HQ. They have had a great response so far from the local community and still have places available for new players or if you wish to go along to see what is going on please feel free to call in one Tuesday at 12.30pm.

Hour1 starts with a gentle set of warm up exercises, followed by a warmup game and then a game of Walking Football all supervised and run by our on-site Cancer Rehab Exercise Practitioner Mark aided by volunteers from Boldmere Falcons. You do everything at your own pace. You don't need to have played football before and very quickly you soon start to enjoy the camaraderie that quickly develops between everyone.

Hour2 is then held in their clubhouse for tea, coffee, a beer and a chat for general discussion, World Cup especially at the moment, or if you have a health question for Mark he will be there for you. The other group members are also happy to share experiences to help you where they can if you need advice.

They have been supported by Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust and Sutton Coldfield Group Practice and they are very grateful to them for their funding help, so it is a real Team Sutton effort!! Further support has been given in many different ways from Birmingham County FA, Sutton Coldfield Prostate Cancer Support Group, Prostate Cancer UK, Blood Cancer UK, Macmillan Cancer Support and Good Hope Hospital and many more.

For more information please contact Richard Cotterill on 07840 059348 or email ckbwfc@gmail.com or alternatively please scan either of the two QR codes to register or for more information.





CANCER KICKERS BOLDMERE WALKING FOOTBALL COMMUNITY



**FREE
SESSION**

EVERY TUESDAY 12:30 - 2:30pm
Starting 16th June 2026



@ Boldmere Sports & Social Club
323 Boldmere Road
Boldmere
B73 5HQ

proudly sponsored by



Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

also sponsored by



SUTTON COLDFIELD
Group Practice

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT:**

Richard Cotterill: 07840 059348
Email: ckbwfc@gmail.com
www.boldmerefalconsfc.co.uk

FREE Walking Football Sessions for those affected by Cancer

WHO IS IT FOR?: Open to anyone affected by any type of cancer, be it prostate, leukaemia, bone, breast, bowel or any other form of cancer. Everyone is welcome whether you have been diagnosed, undergoing treatment, are under surveillance, in recovery or supporting someone who is... Join us at Cancer Kickers Boldmere Walking Football Community - A welcoming, supportive session designed specifically for individuals impacted by cancer.

GENTLE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY: Our session starts with a low-level warm-up, then physical activity to get moving at a comfortable pace.

WHAT IS WALKING FOOTBALL?: Experience an introduction to walking football - a fun, non competitive way to enjoy the sport at a slower pace, whilst still keeping active on our 3G AstroTurf mini soccer pitch.

SOCIAL HUB: After 1 hour gentle session, relax with tea, coffee and conversation in our friendly social hub in our clubhouse

ON-SITE SUPPORT: We have a dedicated cancer rehabilitation exercise practitioner available throughout the session to support you



Good Hope Hospital
Charity

**SUTTON COLDFIELD
PROSTATE CANCER
SUPPORT GROUP**

Football
Foundation

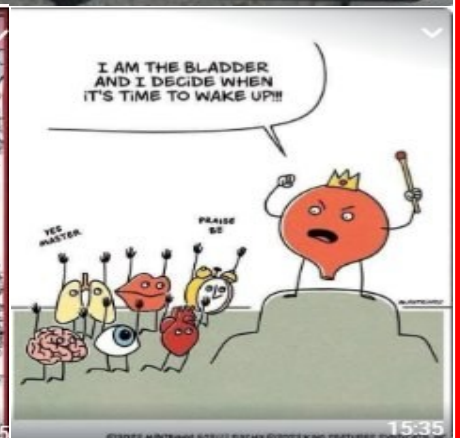
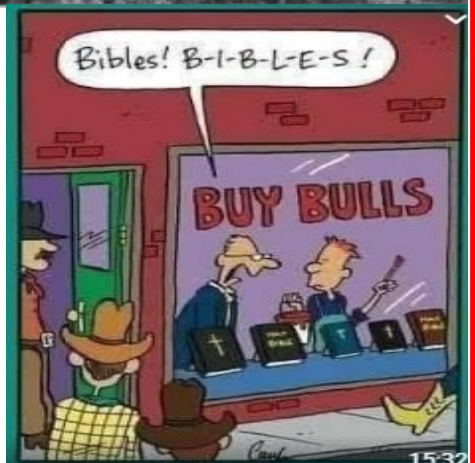
Tesla owners attempting to go on a long roadtrip:



When going fishing, take an Action Figure with you.... it will make your catch look amazing!!!



For those of you who have always lived in the city and have never set foot on a farm, these are what cow eggs look like.



Here's your quiz, in two parts

1. Which club did Will Carling play for?
2. The Pituitary gland controls the production of what in the body?
3. Who was called the Father of Medicine?
4. Which ancient wall crosses England from Wallsend to Solway?
5. Which musical instrument is a national emblem of Ireland?
6. In which city was the 2005 World Athletics Championship held?
7. In the Bible, which King tried to get the baby Jesus put to death?
8. Speaker's Corner is on the corner of what?
9. What name is given to an organism which is both male and female?
10. Sir Alfred Munnings is famous for painting which animals?
11. STASHING is an anagram of which famous battle?
12. Which soap features the unlikely named character, Mercedes McQueen?

1. In which country is Aceh province, scene of the 2004 tsunami?
2. What nationality cop did Sean Connery play in 'The Untouchables'?
3. What name is a combination of 'Instant Camera' and 'Telegram'?
4. Which animal isle is in the River Thames?
5. What is the Eiffel Tower made from?
6. One of the UK's few native evergreens, what is the common name of heder helix?
7. What type of bars join places of equal atmospheric pressure on a chart?
8. What is Finnish Formula 1 driver Kimi Raikkonen's nickname?
9. Who was the wife of Ferdinand Marcos at the time of his death?
10. Yamoussoukro is the capital city of which African country?
11. Ingvar Kamrad founded which retail chain?
12. Which Canadians speak Inuktitut?

Answers 1. Harlequins 2. Hormones 3. Hippocrates 4. Hadrian's Wall 5. Harp 6. Helsinki 7. Herod 8. Hyde Park 9. Hermaphrodite 10. Horses 11. Hastings 12. Hollyoaks 1. Indonesia 2. Irish 3. Instagram 4. Isle of Dogs 5. Iron 6. Ivy 7. Isobars 8. Iceman 9. Imelda Marcos 10. Ivory Coast 11. Ikea 12. Inuit (Eskimos)

Are you a good guesser?
What are these objects. Answers on the bottom of next page.

**Approx. 4" long,
metal, found inside a
vintage ice bucket.**



1

**This paddle with a
small, embedded
magnet and some cut-
out holes bought at a
thrift store.**



2

**This 2-foot by 1-foot
hinged metal cabinet
built into the wall in
someone's home
between their kitchen
and bedroom.**



3

DANCE ARGENTINE TANGO



with Franco & Julia

Now at: Oscott Social Club
Witton Lodge Road. B23 5LX

Thursdays 8.30—8.45pm

Fundamentals and techniques with
practise time

8.45—10pm

With practise time

Improvers / intermediate level

Taking your tango to the next level

Please wear non-rubber sole shoes



Contact: Julia 0779 008 4218

Answers from last page

1. It's hinged to the brass button so all you have to do is pull the leather cord to ring the bell.in the bar.
2. That's a fly-tying tool holder. The magnet is for holding hooks. The larger hole is for a bobbin, and the two smaller holes are for scissors. You keep your best one for thread and one for materials. The small holes are for whip finishers, dubbing needles, hitch tools, and the like. It's a useful thing; I'm forever losing my smaller tools.
3. It's a shoe care cabinet. My great-aunt called hers a polishing stand.

Things you may not know in Wales

The fantasy Moorish design of the Arab Room, reminiscent of pre-Raphaelite visions of harem rooms, was designed in the 1880s by architect and medieval revivalist William Burges for the castle's Victorian-era owner, John Crichton-Stuart, the 3rd Marquess of Bute.

The architect was inspired by his extensive travels as well as the works of French Orientalist Emile Prisse d'Avennes, who published a popular collection of Arab designs in 1877. Described as "arguably the apogee of Burges's work as an interior designer," the Arab Room is stunning even amongst the grand halls, gardens and wood-panelled library Burges created at Cardiff Castle.

In order to accommodate the Arab Room's elaborate high-vaulted ceiling, the upper two floors were removed. The ornate golden ceiling is not simply gold paint but is in fact pure gold-leaf painstakingly applied by hand. While the use of gold leaf is commonplace throughout the opulent property, it is estimated that the gold in the Arab Room alone amounts to a whopping £8 million.

Cardiff Castle itself dates back to at least the 11th century at the site of a much earlier Roman Fort. Traces of the [Roman wall](#) can be seen as well as the Norman Shell Keep in the centre. The residence and garden grounds of the castle were extensively overhauled under that patronage of the 3rd Marquess of Bute, who allowed Burges a perfect playground to exercise his passion for Gothic and medieval design, mingled with a romantic Victorian sensibility. Throughout the building eclectic architectural and cultural influences commingle under elaborate fantasy ceilings.

William Burges died in April 1881, before the Arab Room was completed. In memorial, Crichton-Stuart had the words, "John Marquess of Bute built this in 1881. William Burgess designed it" carved into the overmantel in Latin.



WELCOME TO OUR July Newsletter

HELLO FROM SUTTON COLDFIELD NNS!
Welcome to our monthly Newsletter



THANK YOU!

From Pete, Rachel, Suzy, Joe, Manjit,
Kamleish and Cathy

Hello All!

Hope you are well. Last month Sutton Coldfield NNS had an away day which took place in Minworth - a ward with which we have a current focus, having identified gaps in community service provision. The purpose of the away day was to reflect on our progress and refresh our Strategic Framework, with a clear focus on priorities for 2026-27. The time was used to align our future direction, identify key gaps in provision, and shape targeted commissioning.

If you have identified a gap in community provision for older and disabled adults over 18, please get in touch to let us know your thoughts.

As usual, If you have any relevant snippets for our August newsletter, or would like to share an NNS 'Story of Difference' please get in touch at nns@ageconnectswm.org.uk

SPREAD THE WORD

**NEW! Advice & Information Stand at
Sutton Coldfield's Cottage Hospital**



Age Connects West Midlands and Our Place Support have announced the launch of a new Information & Advice Stand at the newly opened Cottage Hospital in Sutton Coldfield. You can have a chat with their friendly team who can support with a range of advice and guidance, including:

- ★ Welfare benefits
- ★ Energy support
- ★ Crisis Resilience Fund
- ★ Carers support...and much more.

You can pop by the stand during a visit to the Cottage Hospital - no appointment needed, available Monday - Friday.

SPREAD THE WORD

Cancer Support Centre – Nutrition Workshops



Nutrition Workshops

20TH
AUG

THE TRUTH ABOUT SUGAR

17TH
SEP

BENEFITS OF THE
MEDITERRANEAN DIET

15TH
OCT

GUT HEALTH

19TH
NOV

NUTRITION THROUGH
WINTER

17TH
DEC

HEALTHY CHOICES

Your Journey, Our Support, Your Choice.

Every month, the Cancer Support Centre have a nutrition workshop run by their Registered Associate Nutritionist, Meg Butler. Meg helps and supports people to improve their nutrition and overall diet through education, coaching, and behaviour change. The talks are always on the **3rd Thursday of each month, at 10am**. There's no charge, although a donation is always welcome, and you don't have to book.

Here's what's coming up:

20th August – The Truth About Sugar

17th September – Benefits of the Mediterranean Diet

15th October – Gut Health

19th November – Nutrition Through Winter

17th December – Healthy Choices

All sessions funded by Sutton Coldfield NNS.

SPREAD THE WORD

Age Connects West Midlands – Carer Rest 'N' Refresh



Carer Rest 'N' Refresh

Centres across Birmingham open Monday to Friday

Sessions designed to give carers a much needed break
Providing safe, supportive respite
Up to 2.5 hour sessions
Personal care offered
Inclusive, stimulating activities
Flexible & tailored sessions

To find your nearest centre please contact us

Phone: 0121 362 3650

Email: hello@ageconnectswm.org.uk

www.ageconnectswm.org.uk



age connects
west midlands.

Age Connects West Midlands (formerly known as Age Concern Birmingham) offer a Day Care service dedicated to enriching the lives of older adults. The service meets the individual care and support needs of citizens while providing a friendly, engaging space with a community feel.

Day Care is available in Sutton Coldfield at The Laurels – Mere Green and Sutton Rose – Boldmere, on both a daily and respite basis.

Carer Rest 'N' Refresh is designed to give carers a much needed break, providing safe, supportive respite up to 2.5 hours. They can be booked the evening before or on the morning of attendance. These shorter visits are perfect for carers who need time for appointments, shopping, or a short break. The cost is £25 (with optional lunch £6 and pudding £1.50).

To find out more, please call **0121 362 3650** or email **hello@ageconnectswm.org.uk**

Current venues within Sutton Coldfield and days of operation include:

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday – The Laurels, Grange Lane, B75 5JX

Wednesdays – Sutton Rose, St Michaels Rd, B73 5FU

SPREAD THE WORD

Check and Connect



Check and Connect

Do you or someone you care for have a Learning Disability?

If you are aged 14 or over, you have the right to a **FREE** Annual Health Check!

An Annual Health Check is a chance to:

- ✓ Talk about your health
- ✓ Ask questions
- ✓ Make a plan to help you stay well

Ask your GP to add you to the Learning Disability Register to request your free Annual Health Check.



Partnership with:



Do you or someone you care for have a Learning Disability?

If you are aged 14 or over, you have the right to a **FREE** Annual Health Check!

Ask your GP to add you to the Learning Disability Register to request your free Annual Health Check.

It's a chance to talk about your health, ask questions and make a plan to help you stay well.

Child Bereavement UK



At Child Bereavement UK, we help families to rebuild their lives when a child grieves or when a child dies.

We offer free, UK-wide, accessible online grief support to children and young people (up to 25) who are bereaved or facing the death of someone important, and the parents and carers of babies and children who are dying or have died.

Instant bereavement support

No appointment needed or long wait times, just support when it's needed. Our trained bereavement specialists are available to speak with Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm (excluding bank holidays).

Group support & one-to-one

Our bereavement specialists explore the person's individual needs and assess if they could benefit from one-to-one or group support.

Trusted information & resources

Free online tools, content, guides, and publications to help people understand their grief and feel less alone, and to help the people around them feel confident supporting them.

How we help professionals

We offer tailored advice and a range of training and education programmes, which aim to help professionals support children, young people, parents and carers.

Our services are available to individuals of any gender or gender assignment, married or civil partnership status, disability, race, religion, faith, belief, or sexual orientation. We will endeavour to provide interpreters if needed, but not where needed / possible.

Child Bereavement UK is a Registered Charity (England and Wales) 1061379, (Scotland) SC341140



Winston's Wish and Child Bereavement UK have come together so that we can be there for more grieving children, young people and parents than ever before.

Everything that made both organisations special will remain - our compassion, our expertise and our commitment to be here for you whenever you need us.

If you've had support from us before, whether through Winston's Wish or Child Bereavement UK, please know that we're still here for you. Some services might look a little bit different, but our commitment to you is exactly the same. We're here to help you find ways to cope and live with grief. Our support will always be expert, free, run by real people, and tailored to your needs.



Support is available for you to pick up and put down whenever you need it, wherever you live in the UK, whatever you're going through. Our trained bereavement specialists are available to speak with Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm (excluding bank holidays):

- ☎ Call our free helpline: 0800 02 888 40
- ✉ Email: ask@childbereavementuk.org
- 📞 Text or WhatsApp us: 07418 341 800
- 🌐 Visit: childbereavementuk.org and click the 'Chat with us' button



Child Bereavement UK is a Registered Charity (England and Wales) 1061379, (Scotland) SC341140

Child Bereavement UK, help families to rebuild their lives when a child grieves or when a child dies. They offer free, UK-wide, accessible online grief support to children and young people (up to 25) who are bereaved or facing the death of someone important, and the parents and carers of babies and children who are dying or have died.

- ★ Instant bereavement support
- ★ Trusted information & resources
- ★ Group Support & one to one
- ★ Support for professionals

To find out more please call the free helpline: 0800 02 888 40
or email ask@childbereavementuk.org

SPREAD THE WORD

Minworth Community Engagement Event Saturday 25th July 2026



The poster for the Minworth Community Engagement Day features a vibrant floral border in shades of orange, yellow, and pink. At the top left is the Sutton Coldfield Neighbourhood Network Scheme logo, and at the top right is the Birmingham City Council logo. The main title 'MINWORTH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DAY' is written in large, bold, brown letters. Below it, a text box states: 'An opportunity to see what is on offer in other parts of Sutton Coldfield, to inspire potential projects in Minworth'. The date and time 'SATURDAY 25TH JULY 2026 12-4PM' are prominently displayed. The activities listed are 'SAMPLE FOOD FROM AROUND THE WORLD, ARTS & STORYTELLING PLUS IRISH TREATS AND LIVE MUSIC'. The venue is 'ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR CHURCH HALL, B76 9BU'. A section titled 'JOIN US FOR THIS FREE EVENT' lists 'DISCOVER BELLBOATING, TRY A NEW CRAFT, EXPLORE LOCAL SERVICES'. At the bottom, it mentions the event is 'Organised in partnership with: Birmingham Irish Association, St. George the Martyr Church, Young Stars, Age Connects West Midlands, Community Environmental Trust, Coal Creatives Ltd, St Johns Ambulance Service, Our Place/Bridging Communities'.

MINWORTH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DAY

An opportunity to see what is on offer in other parts of Sutton Coldfield, to inspire potential projects in Minworth

**SATURDAY 25TH JULY 2026
12-4PM**

**SAMPLE FOOD FROM AROUND THE WORLD,
ARTS & STORYTELLING PLUS IRISH TREATS
AND LIVE MUSIC**

**ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR
CHURCH HALL, B76 9BU**

**JOIN US FOR THIS FREE EVENT
DISCOVER BELLBOATING, TRY A NEW CRAFT,
EXPLORE LOCAL SERVICES**

Organised in partnership with: Birmingham Irish Association, St. George the Martyr Church, Young Stars, Age Connects West Midlands, Community Environmental Trust, Coal Creatives Ltd, St Johns Ambulance Service, Our Place/Bridging Communities

Sutton Coldfield NNS is currently working in partnership with St. George the Martyr Church in Minworth and is pleased to launch the **Minworth Community Engagement Day**. The event will take place on **Saturday, 25th July 26, 12-4pm**.

The afternoon will provide the opportunity to see what is on offer in other parts of Sutton Coldfield, to inspire potential projects in Minworth.

There will be free food from around the world, bellboating, try a new craft, live music, storytelling, Irish treats and explore local services!

Minworth Community Engagement Day
17 Saturday 25th July 2026
12-4pm
**St George the Martyr Church Hall,
B76 9BU**

NNS Networkers out and about



NNS Networker Suzy represented Sutton Coldfield NNS at 'St Michael's Goes Wild', a fun-filled summer church fayre celebrating nature, sustainability and community earlier this month.

"It was great to promote the Communitia Allotment Group and wider Age Connects West Midlands services at the 'St Michael's Goes Wild' eco-themed fayre last weekend. St Michael's Church garden area was filled with stalls and information booths and had great attendance from the local community. We were able to share produce grown on our plot which drew people to our stall, and sparked conversations and reminiscence."

STORY OF DIFFERENCE

Youngstars Community Hub



Last year Sutton Coldfield NNS identified Minworth as an area with a gap in community activity provision. As a result, we developed a project with Youngstars Community Hub who were funded to provide Meet & Move sessions for the over 50's. The project is currently just over its half way point, so we were keen to find out how they got on.

As well as providing gentle exercise, the group also actively signpost and share information about services, resources and activities available. Participants of the group have also supported the promotion of the sessions, leafleting their local streets and public spaces. The group has grown quickly, the first session attracting 10 people - a mix of men and women, with positive connections made in the first couple of weeks. There has been very positive feedback about the instructor sessions and the music used is enjoyed by everyone! The group have become very social and have an active WhatsApp group sharing information, photos, and updates.

We hear from 'S' aged 75-84 - a single man who has attended regularly, mentions, "I am a man who lives on his own and barely went out and lost track of what day it was. And as a result of that I didn't move much. Mobility and muscle tone were being reduced. I joined in November to reverse that. I feel a lot better in my outlook. We test ourselves (sit to stand) and I have gone from 10 to 15 repetitions. My coordination has improved. I have more confidence going up and down stairs."

Quotes from other participants include:

"More flexible - more energy."

"Many thanks for sessions so far!"

"Improved balance - rheumatic pain improved."

"Fantastic group of people."

"Very happy with what we have."

"Meeting new people and feeling better in myself."

"We so look forward to our Wednesdays."

You can find Youngstars Community Hub at our upcoming Minworth Community Engagement Day on Saturday 25th July, 12-4pm, St Georges the Martyr Church Hall!

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Pride-in-Place – Community Grant Applications now open



PRIDE IN PLACE
LED BY YOU - BACKED BY UK GOVERNMENT

**£200,000
COMMUNITY GRANTS**

Community Enabling Grants
Up to £7,500
For smaller-scale projects, equipment, or startup initiatives

Community Delivery Grants
£7,500 to £25,000
For larger, high-impact community projects

Applications NOW OPEN!

Benefitting those
★ LIVING ★
★ WORKING ★
★ VISITING ★
Royal Sutton Coldfield

For creating
★ **THRIVING PLACES** ★
Improving the quality and vitality of our town's spaces and assets
★ **STRONGER COMMUNITIES** ★
Fostering connection, cohesion, and mutual support
★ **TAKING BACK CONTROL** ★
Putting residents and community groups at the heart of decision-making

Suitable for
★ LOCAL GROUPS ★
★ CHARITIES ★
★ COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS ★

Find out more @ bit.ly/pipp-grants

QR code

Applications Now Open for a total fund of £200,000 in Community Grants! Since launching the delivery phase on 5 June, the Pride in Place programme is officially underway in Sutton Coldfield and is seeking applications from local groups, charities, or community organisations working to make a difference in their community.

A total pot of £200,000 is available across two different grant tiers:

Community Enabling Grants (Up to £7,500) – Perfect for smaller-scale projects, equipment, or startup initiatives. **Community Delivery Grants (£7,500 to £25,000)** – Designed for larger, high-impact community projects.

If you are a local group, charity, or community organisation dedicated to making a difference for those living, working, or visiting Royal Sutton Coldfield, we want to hear from you. We are looking for projects that align with the Pride in Place programme's three objectives:

Thriving Places – Improving the quality and vitality of our town's spaces and assets.

Stronger Communities – Fostering connection, cohesion, and mutual support.

Taking Back Control – Putting residents and community groups at the heart of decision-making.

Scan the QR code in the image or click the link below to review the eligibility criteria and submit your application today! Find out more and apply here: bit.ly/pipp-grants

Do you offer activities for older people or adults with additional needs?

Please get in touch to discover how we can support your local community group or organisation!

To find out more about the Sutton Coldfield NNS you can visit

<https://suttoncoldfieldnns.blogspot.com/>

0121 362 3650

nns@ageconnectswm.org.uk

[Sutton Coldfield NNS](#)



Simply School Supplies C.I.C is a community interest company committed to reducing inequalities in the school environment. In our first six months of operating, we have helped over 300 children with school uniforms. We do this by collecting and sorting pre-loved school uniforms and making them available through pop-ups, an online second-hand uniform shop, partnerships with local schools, and a referral scheme for local children's charities. Everything we do is to promote equal opportunities in the school environment for all children.

This year, we aim to support 500 children, and we can only do this with your support. To meet our target, we need to raise £2,500 to purchase the branded items we do not have in stock. In the coming months, we will be fundraising at local craft fairs, conducting bucket collections at Asda Queslett, and partnering with local schools and charities to reach as many families as possible.

This is your invitation to join our appeal, whether by simply following us on Facebook to help spread the word or by donating your old uniform at one of our donation points. More information about our events, donation points and volunteering opportunities can be found on our website at www.simplyschoolsupplies.co.uk.

Any support is greatly appreciated.

Nearest Donation Points:

- St Columbas Church Hall Entrance - Friday and Sunday mornings.
- ASDA Queslett - Trolley by Cafe Entrance, open 24 hours.

YOUR LOCAL AUDIO NEWSPAPER - a real lifeline for hundreds, yes hundreds! of people across Birmingham.

[Birmingham Talking Newspaper For The Blind And Visually Impaired](#)

btnbvi.org

When my own mother-in-law's health was fading, we discovered this remarkable service and it gave her a new lease of life at 93!

Do you know anyone who is partially sighted or blind? If so, they may benefit from listening to a local audio newspaper. Or indeed a monthly magazine and a history talk? This is a completely free of charge service, including the loan of equipment to allow you to listen to these articles. It is enjoyed by many people of all ages, some of whom are housebound.

Blind and visually impaired people in the wider Birmingham area can obtain audio versions of local newspaper articles and a range of weekly and monthly audio magazines. These are provided free of charge for listeners who have registered with our service.

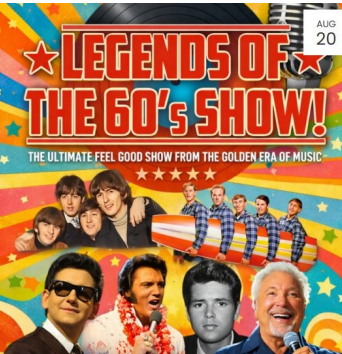
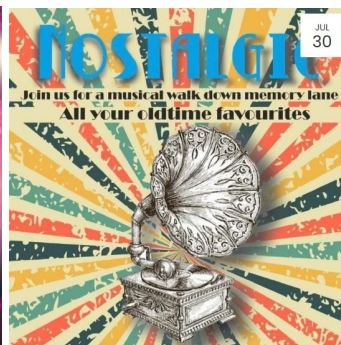
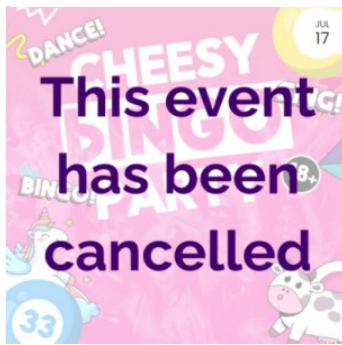
You can apply by filling out the registration form which can be found at www.btnbvi.org. Or by contacting 0300 330 1404 for more information. We will then explain the service that we provide, all completely free of charge.

Please note that we never pass your information to anyone else and you can unsubscribe from our service at any time.



0121 296 9543

What's On: [suttoncoldfieldtownhall.com/events/
enquiries@suttoncoldfieldtownhall.com](https://suttoncoldfieldtownhall.com/events/enquiries@suttoncoldfieldtownhall.com)



SUPPORT US

On the 3rd April 2019, Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Hall was transferred back to the people of Sutton Coldfield and gave management of the building to Royal Sutton Coldfield Community Town Hall Trust. Now a fully-fledged charity-run venue, with your support we can continue to transform and build Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Hall back to its former glory...

[https://suttoncoldfieldtownhall.com/
events/](https://suttoncoldfieldtownhall.com/events/)

It gives me enormous pleasure to welcome you to our 2026–27 season.

This year's programme celebrates the richness and variety of live theatre, bringing an exciting mix of drama, comedy, Shakespeare, musical theatre and family pantomime to the heart of Sutton Coldfield.

At Sutton Arts Theatre, we firmly believe that theatre should be accessible and affordable for all. We are passionate about bringing productions of the very highest standard to our community. In an era where so much entertainment is experienced through screens, there is something uniquely powerful about sharing a live theatrical experience together, in the same room, in the same moment.

Community theatre plays a vital role, particularly during difficult and uncertain times. It provides connection, creativity and a sense of belonging. It brings people together across generations and backgrounds, offering opportunities to perform, volunteer, learn new skills and form lasting friendships. The arts enrich our wellbeing, encourage conversation and remind us of the importance of human connection and shared stories.

This season reflects our commitment to presenting a broad and vibrant programme that entertains, inspires and challenges our performers and audiences alike. We are incredibly proud of the dedication, talent and passion shown by our amazing volunteers, actors and production teams, who continue to make Sutton Arts Theatre such a special place within our community.

Every ticket purchased and every show attended helps to ensure that our wonderful gem of a theatre continues to thrive for future generations, allowing us to nurture creativity, champion local talent and keep theatre alive in Sutton Coldfield.

We look forward to welcoming you throughout the season and sharing another year of unforgettable stories, laughter, music and magic with you.

Emily Armstrong, Artistic Director

With thanks to the Arts Directorate: Barrie Atchison, Joanne Ellis, Hazel Evans and Kieran Jenkins.

BOX OFFICE 0121 355 5355

MONDAY, TUESDAY & FRIDAY: 7.30pm - 8.30pm

THURSDAY: 10.30am - 12 noon

WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY: Closed

PRODUCTION WEEKS:

Open Wednesday evening prior to opening night: 7.30-8.30pm and 1 hour prior to every performance until the interval.

Tickets can be booked online from our website:

WWW.SUTTONARTSTHEATRE.CO.UK

For information and help, outside Box Office opening hours, please contact the Box Office Manager on **07776 006 357**

**WELCOME TO
SUTTON ARTS THEATRE
2026-27 SEASON**



Banners Gate Community Association

Our Community Hall in Sutton Coldfield
is the perfect venue for your club, regular class,
meeting and much more!

[welcome](#)[what's on](#)[hire our hall](#)[view our hall](#)[committee](#)[contact](#)[links](#)

Welcome to Banners Gate Community Hall & Association

Run by a team of volunteers and situated in Sutton Coldfield, Banners Gate Community Hall is the perfect venue for your club or regular class. Our room hire rates are very reasonable and come with refreshment making facilities. The Hall has the capacity to hold up to 70 people, it is level throughout with a wheelchair accessible toilet and all of our facilities are fully insured and risk assessed.

If you are looking for a venue, simply telephone our [Bookings](#) Secretary on 0751 318 4845.

There's always lots going on at Banners Gate Community Hall. Newcomers are always very welcome! We cater for all needs no matter what your background, including young people, senior citizens, mother and baby. The hall is situated on the junction of Reay Nadin Drive and Coppice View Road (B73 6UR). On street parking is available.

As a community hall we are trying to create activities for the benefit of the community so if you have any ideas in that direction, please get in touch and share those ideas with us—no obligation.

If you need any information please message on 07964 213 229

Banners Gate Community Hall - Coffee Mornings, third Tuesday of the month
The next is on 18th August - at 10.00 to noon, please note new times.

DAY/TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE	CONTACT	TEL.
Sun (last) 10.30 – 2.30 pm 10.00 am 10.30 am (fortnightly) 11.00 am 7.30 – 8.30pm	Create at Gate with K & S Family Communion Sunday Gathering Chikara Karate Kai Soul Yoga – last Sunday	Community Hall St. Columba's Banners Gate CC Scout Hall Community Hall	Kathy Weston Nigel Willis Paul Murphy 07837 Cath Hussey	628 6651 354 5873 353 0230 39 57 89
Mon 11.00 to 6.45pm 7.30 – 9.00 pm	Sign Language Classes Sign Language Classes Sign Language Classes Line Dancing	Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall	Shakila Kosar 07825 Shakila Kosar 07825 Shakila Kosar 07825 Diane Pursall	255042 255042 255042 747 4659
Tues 6.00 – 7.00 9.15 – 2.00pm 3rd Tues 9.15 – 12.00pm 11.45am – 12.45pm 6.30 – 9.00 7.45 pm	Soul Yoga Born to Spa, Baby Spa Coffee Morning 3rd Tuesdays Tai Chi Line Dancing Chikara Karate Kai	Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall Scout Hut Community Hall St. Columba's	Anna Madge 07833 Dave Cockbill Neil Rankine 07721 Diane Pursall Paul Murphy 07837	45 70 74 67 09 13 747 4659 39 57 89
Wed 9.30, 11.00 & 12 10.30 – 12.00 6.30 – 7.30 7.00 pm	Baby Sensory Guide Dog Training Dance Fitness SlimmingWorld	Banners Gate CC Community Hall Community Hall St Columba's	Tracy Jones 0775 Madge Nightingale Karen 07759	82 56 22 360 0286 17 02 89
Thurs 10.00 – 11.00 am 7.30 on last Thursday 6.30 – 9.45 pm (3rd of each month) 7.00 pm	Yoga Neighbourhood Forum Zig Zag Dance Studio Townswomen's Guild	Community Hall Community Hall St. Columba's Banners Gate CC	Tricia 07954 Tony Willis Warren 01902 Janice Jones 07955	40 39 43 605 4947 897 900 65 59 10
Fri 11.30 – 3.30 5.00 – 6.30pm 7.00 – 8.00 pm	Sign language Classes Repertoire Dance Studio Sign Language Classes	Community Hall Community Hall Community Hall	Shakila Kosar 07825 Chloe Lloyd 07729 Shakila Kosar 07825	25 50 42 47 79 46 25 50 42
Saturday 9 – 10am	Soul Yoga	Community Hall		

Useful telephone numbers

Sutton and Kingstanding
Police: 101
Good Hope: 424 2000
Outpatients: 424 2000
NHS Health helpline:
Call 111 it's 24/7
Citizens Advice
03444 111 444

BANNERS GATE COUNSELLING CENTRE

Accessible and Affordable
Counselling to Adults in the
Community. The Upper Room
St. Michael's House
198 Boldmere Road
Sutton Coldfield
Tel : 0121 354 6544
For information or an
appointment please ring after
10 a.m. daily, except
Wednesday

**Banners Gate
Community hall
Coffee Mornings
The next is on
18th August
starting at 10.00a.m.
until noon, please
note new times.**

BOOKING SECRETARIES:

Community Hall mobile: 075 65 54 68 21
Banners Gate CC - Nigel Willis 07711 284562
St. Columba's - Alison Jolley st.columbahall@yahoo.com
Scout Hall - A & R Talliss 353 8166

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS:

Scouts: Margaret Drummond, 33rd GSL
353 5203 **Girlguiding:** Carol Gardner,
Vesey West District Commissioner 350 7191

Banners Gate Ladies Circle

This is the name of the previously named
Townswomen's Guild. Contact details,
meeting days and times remain the same.
Hopefully next month will let you know how
we will be going forward as our new group.
Thurs. 17th Sept, Bingo, Fish & Chips
Thurs. 20th Aug. Cheese & Wine Social
Evening
Our vibrant Guild meets on the 3rd Thursday
of the month, 7.00 - 10.00 in the Westwood
Hall, **Banners Gate Community Church.**
Janice Jones 07955 65 59 10

Banners Gate Community Church

Westwood Road. B73 6UH

We meet **weekly** on Sunday mornings from
10.30am for fellowship, worship, prayer
and learning together in an informal setting,
with other gatherings throughout the week.

To find out more visit our website at
www.bannersgatechurch.com.

St Columba's Church

Coffee Morning

**Every Friday of
the month**

10.00 - Noon

All Welcome

The 18th Sutton Coldfield West
Scout Group and the 15th
Sutton Coldfield West Scout
Group have merged and are
now named the 33rd
Headquarters are at the Scout
Hut, Coppice View Road.
B73 6UE.

33rd Sutton Coldfield Scout Group,

H.Q. Coppice View Road

Monday Beavers 5.30 p.m. – 6.45 p.m. ages 6 – 8 years
Scouts 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. ages 10 ½ – 14 years
Tuesday Beavers 5.40 p.m. – 6.40 p.m. ages 6 – 8 years
Cubs 7.00 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. ages 8 – 10 ½ years
Thursday Cubs 7.00 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. ages 8 – 10 ½ years

Contact 0121 353 5203

Email: margaretdrummond1@btinternet.com



Girlguiding gives girls and young women a voice.....has done so for 100 years.....be part of the next 100

Could you spare 1½ hours a week to help with the St Columba's Guide unit? Gain real satisfaction in volunteering and helping to ensure
girls in Banners Gate aged 10 – 14 can continue to enjoy games, projects, badges and outings at Guides.

There are also places available in both Brownie units in September for girls aged 7 or 8.

For more information contact Carol Gardner on 350 7191.



Girlguiding UK

Day/Time	Activity	Venue	Contact	Tel
Mon 6.00 - 7.30pm	39th Brownies	St Columba's Hall		354 5873
Tues 6.00 - 7.30pm	45th Brownies	St Columba's Hall	Carol Gardner	350 7191
Thurs 5.00 - 6.00pm	39th Rainbows	St Columba's Hall		354 5873